

REMARKS

After entry of the above amendments, the claims pending in the subject application are 1-12, 14-27, 29-30, and 32. Reconsideration of this application based on the Amendments and Remarks presented herein is respectfully requested.

OBJECTIONS

The specification was objected to because on page 12, lines 19-31 a list of vulcanizing agents was listed. Some of the vulcanizing agents in the list are not organic. The claims are directed to water insoluble organic chemicals, and inorganic vulcanizing agents are not organic chemicals. While the list contains more than just water insoluble organic vulcanizing agents, there is no requirement that the list be limited to water insoluble organic vulcanizing agents. The inorganic vulcanizing agents can be added in addition to the water insoluble organic ones. It is respectfully submitted that it is permitted to list additional items that can be included beyond the items required by the invention.

35 U.S.C. §112 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended to recite that "the water insoluble organic chemical is at least one of a vulcanizing agent, a vulcanization accelerator, a prevulcanization inhibitor, an antireversion agent, and an antioxidant". It was stated in the office action that members of this list were enabled. Because at least one of these members is present as the water insoluble organic chemical it is respectfully submitted that the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

35 U.S.C. §102 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-6, 11-24, 27, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b or e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,048,000 to McMaster et al., United States Patent No.

4,368,258 to Fujiwhara et al., United States Patent No. 5,725,656 to Shimanovich et al., or United States Patent No. 6,297,002 to Toya et al.

The element from claim 31 was added to independent claims 1 and 17. There were no prior art rejections on claim 31. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-12, 14-27, 29-30, and 32 are not anticipated by the cited references.

35 U.S.C. §103 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-6 and 8-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 4,048,000 to McMaster et al., United States Patent No. 4,368,258 to Fujiwhara et al., United States Patent No. 5,725,656 to Shimanovich et al., or United States Patent No. 6,297,002 to Toya et al. in view of United States Patent No. 3,988,275 to Stake et al.

The element from claim 31 was added to independent claims 1 and 17. There were no prior art rejections on claim 31. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-12, 14-27, 29-30, and 32 are patentable over the cited references.

In view of the amendments and remarks contained above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the 35 USC §102, §103, and §112 rejections, and request that a Formal Notice of Allowance be issued for claims 1-12, 14-27, 29-30, and 32. Should the Examiner have any questions about the above remarks, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

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